

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

B-2350  
130

632

MAG#0423505511

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Knobe's Piano Works and Showrooms

AND/OR COMMON

Sunny's Surplus (and other stores)

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

328-330 W. Baltimore Street

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

☒ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

☒ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

**PRESENT USE**

☒ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☒ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey

DATE

1976

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☒ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL &

CITY, TOWN

ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

STATE

Room 500

26 South Calvert St.

**7 DESCRIPTION****CONDITION**

☒ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This grouping of three rather distinct brick buildings with wood detail were built as the factory and showrooms for Knabe pianos, whose later buildings stand further south on Eutaw Street and are occupied today by Maryland Cup Corporation. The pianos are still being made under another name in Massachusetts.

The showroom building stands at the northeast corner of Baltimore and W Eutaw Streets. It is two stories high and three bays wide. The first floor shop front has been extensively altered. The Baltimore Street side is filled with plate glass and plywood resting on a corrugated metal base. Transoms above have been filled with plywood, over which a deep wooden cornice projects.

The corner entrance has an octagonal wooden marquee, with mosaic tiles set in the sidewalk below. A chain-like motif runs at the edge of the tiled area, and "Cummins", the name of some former commercial occupant, is spelled in tiles in the center. A wooden door with round-arched glass inset gives entrance.

Above the cornice, three rectangular windows are filled with plywood and set in stucco walls. Windows have projecting flat wooden goods and wooden sills. At either end, large rectangular panels may have once held reliefs. A deeply projecting wooden cornice runs at the front flat roof.

The buildings stretch northward along Eutaw Street. The side of the showrooms is treated similarly to the front. Two windows with the same detail are in place on the second floor. To the right is an inset panel; to the left a smaller plywood filled window with equivalently scaled wood.

To the north a taller two story stuccoed brick building adjoins the showroom building. A set of wooden pilasters can be seen running above the first floor plywood infill, breaking the transom area. At the north end on the first floor, a large door opening is detailed with fluted wooden pilasters and flat hood.

On the second floor level, four windows with wooden hoods and sills are filled with plywood. Above them, an inset panel spans the facade above the level of the showroom roof. A wooden cornice with terminal block at the left is supported on rolled modillions.

The last structure to the north is four stories high, twelve bays wide and is of brick laid in Flemish bond. Four shops with a variety of first floor fronts fill the lower levels. All have central recessed entrances and the plate glass, aluminum and wood shake fronts and signs rise through the transom level of the southern buildings. All windows, which decrease in height proportionately

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES **1855**

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although altered, these buildings retain the detail and feeling of their original use as a piano factory and sales showrooms. They are the last surviving structures used for a purpose which once dominated the area around the inter-section of Baltimore and Eutaw Streets, and are in good condition.

## DESCRIPTION, cont.

as the stories rise, are filled with plywood, and all have stone sills and lintels. A fire escape runs down the middle. The wooden cornice is supported on rows of dentils and modillions, and it is probable that the roofline, which is an upward sloping shed, has been changed. The alley end of the building is laid in common bond.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Planning Assistants

ORGANIZATION

COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL &  
ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION  
Room 900

DATE

1976

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

25 South Calvert St.

STATE

Baltimore, Md. 21202

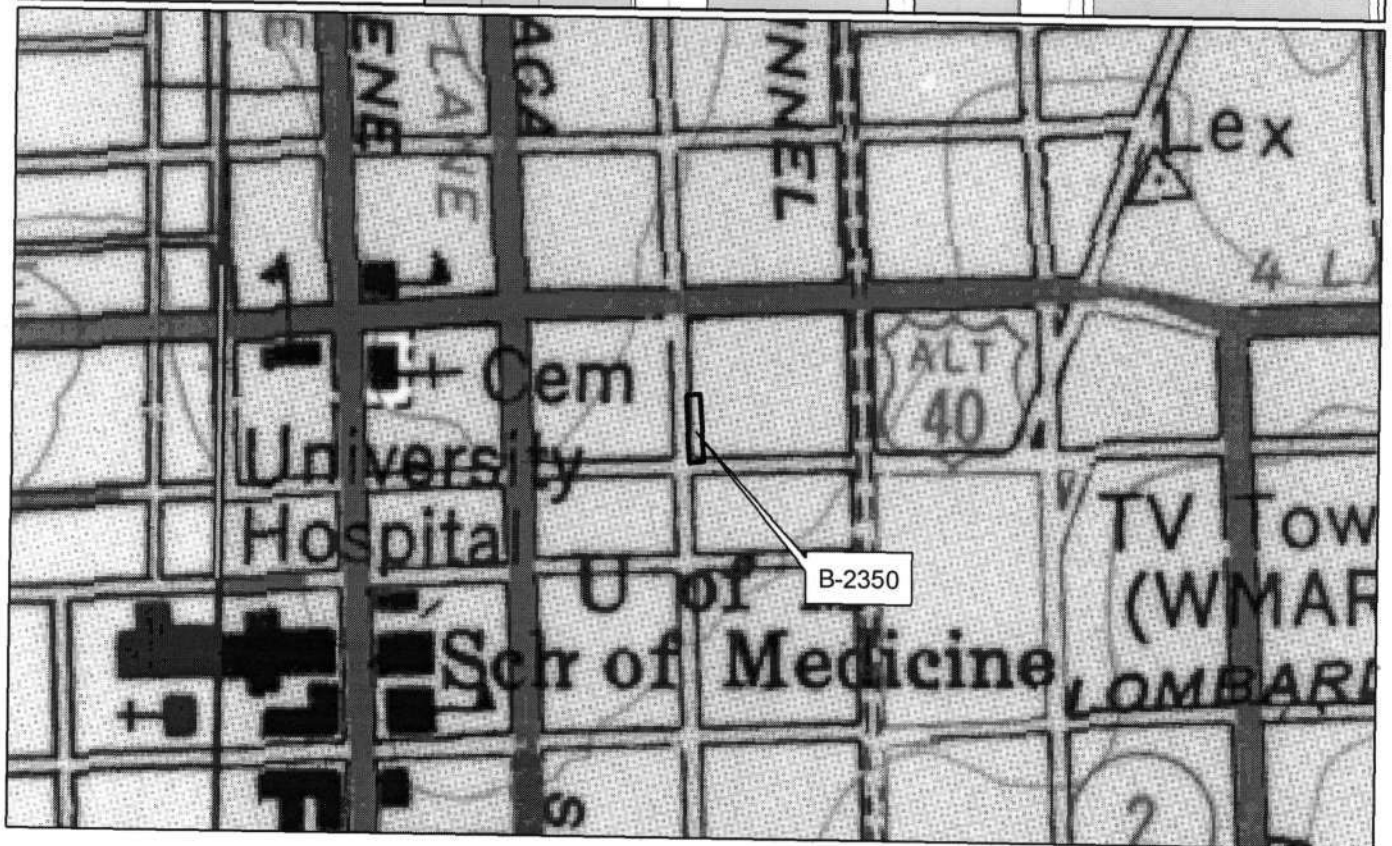
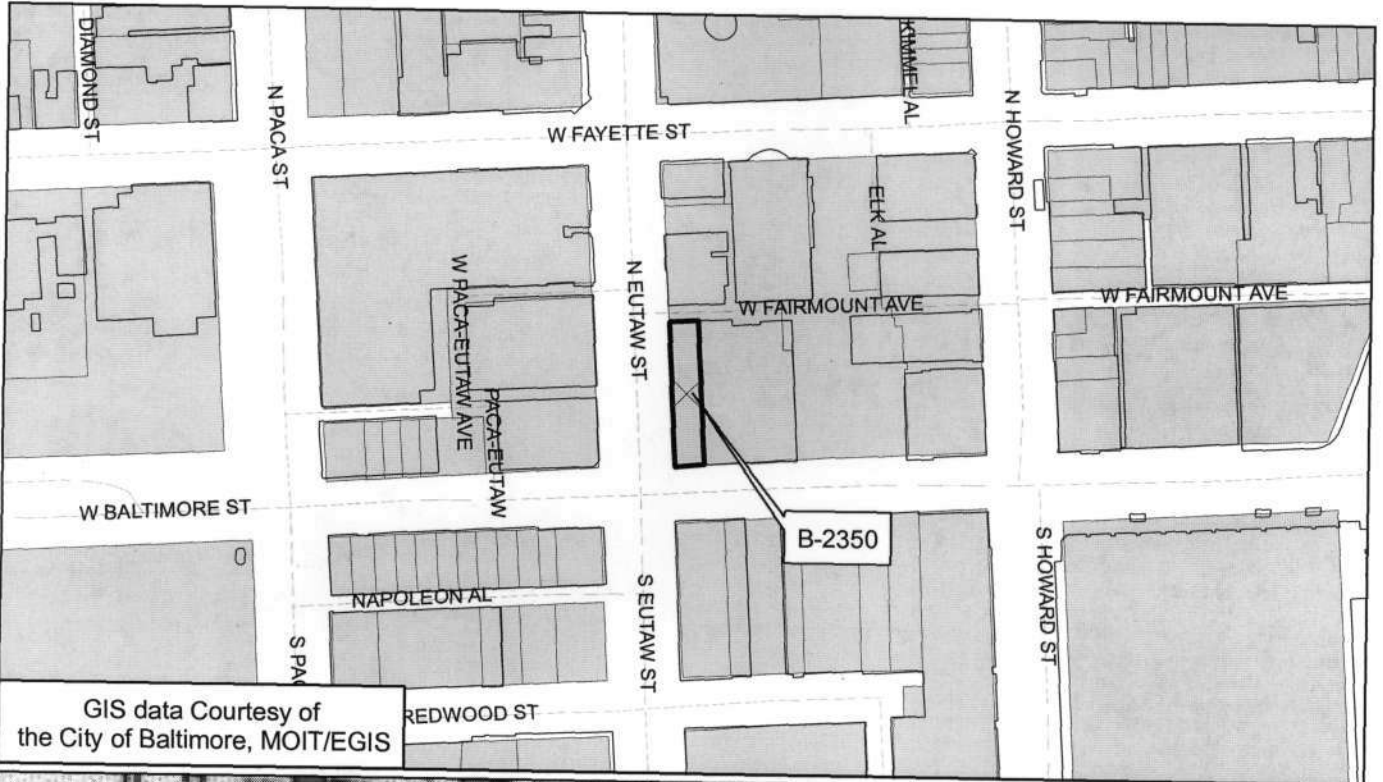
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

B-2350  
Knobe's Piano Works  
328-330 W. Baltimore Street  
Block 632 Lot 003  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.

**Demolished**







6-2350

328-330 W. Baltimore

Neg #

B. Pencak

2/76

Block

632